

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/993,114

Examiner

Tonia L. Meonske

Applicant(s)

NGUYEN ET AL.

Art Unit

2181

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 1/19/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4,6,7,15-18,20,21,24 and 26.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                     |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____    | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                   |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance  |
|  | 9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>Proposed Amendment</u> .              |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. The title has been changed by Examiner, see MPEP 606.01, to the following:  
  
CONDITIONAL LINK POINTER REGISTER SETS MARKING THE BEGINNING  
AND END OF A CONDITIONAL INSTRUCTION BLOCK WHERE EACH SET  
CORRESPONDS TO A SINGLE STAGE OF A PIPELINE THAT MOVES LINK  
POINTERS THROUGH EACH CORRESPONDING REGISTER OF SAID  
REGISTER SETS AS INSTRUCTIONS MOVE THROUGH THE PIPELINE
3. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with J. Joel Justiss on March 16, 2007 (Also see the attached six-page proposed amendment.).
  - a. Claim 1, line 8 has changed the limitation "each register" to "each corresponding register".
  - b. Claim 15, line 10 has changed the limitation "each register" to "each corresponding register".
  - c. Claims 8-11, 13, 14 and 25 are cancelled.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

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5. Referring to claim 1, the prior art of record has not taught "conditional link pointer register sets, wherein each of said register sets corresponds to a single stage of a pipeline of said processor, that contain and cause said link pointers to move through each corresponding register of said register sets as said instruction associated with said link pointers and located in said conditional execution block move through each of said corresponding stages, said corresponding stages including a fetch/decode stage and a group stage" in combination with the conditional execution block state machine as claimed in claim 1.

6. Referring to claim 15, the prior art of record has not taught "conditional link pointer register sets, wherein each of said register sets corresponds to a single stage of a pipeline of said processor, that contain and cause said link pointers to move through each corresponding register of said register sets as said instruction associated with said link pointers and located in said conditional execution block move through each of said corresponding stages, said corresponding stages including a fetch/decode stage and a group stage" in combination with the conditional execution block state machine as claimed in claim 15.

7. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### **Conclusion**

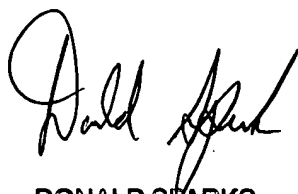
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8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tonia L. Meonske whose telephone number is (571) 272-4170. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday with first Friday's off.

9. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Donald Sparks can be reached on (571) 272-4201. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

10. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TLM

  
DONALD SPARKS  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER